

We Claim:

1. A filter for removing leukocytes from blood comprising a housing, and a filter media in the housing including a main filter region comprising a first skin surface and a second skin surface, an interior porous structure formed between the first and second skin surfaces by intersecting cells having a range of diameters, the cells adjacent to the first skin surface having diameters generally smaller than the diameters of the cells adjacent to the second skin surface, the first skin surface including an open area comprising pores formed by cells intersecting the first skin surface, the majority of the open area being defined by pores having a diameter of between about 12  $\mu\text{m}$  and 28  $\mu\text{m}$ .
2. A blood processing system comprising a container to receive blood and a filter as defined in claim 1 communicating with the container.
3. A method of filtering blood using the blood filter as defined in claim 1.
4. A method of filtering blood using the blood filter defined in claim 2.